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CPYRGHT (CUBANS)

WASHINGTON--A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID EARLY THIS AFTERNOON THAT HE UNDERSTOOD NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AT THAT TIME ON RELEASE OF CUBANS TAKEN PRISONER IN THE ABORTIVE BAY OF PIGS INVASION.

THE SPOKESMAN, LINCOLN WHITE, TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE THAT PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RELEASE WERE CONTINUING AND THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED TO TAKE "A SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE" TOWARDS THE TALKS.

OFFICIALS, ELABORATING LATER ON WHITE'S STATEMENT, SAID THEY STILL WERE HOPEFUL FOR A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE TALKS BETWEEN NEW YORK ATTORNEY JAMES B. DONOVAN, REPRESENTING CUBAN EXILED FAMILIES, AND THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT.

10/9--EG 201 PED